

# Colonels assume new commands

<sup>MUG</sup>  
READING/CAMP EDWARDS — Earlier this month, two Colonels in the Massachusetts National Guard assumed command of major units in the state. Col. Michael E. Chilson, of Newbury, N.H., assumed command of the 51st Troop Command at Camp Edwards in Reading. Chilson took command from Col. Bernard A. Flynn Jr. of Reading. Flynn then assumed command of the Army National Guard Training Site (Camp Edwards) from Col. Joseph C. Carter. Camp Edwards is located on Cape Cod's Massachusetts Military Reservation.

Brigadier General Gary A. Pappas, the Commander of the Massachusetts Army National Guard, was the reviewing officer for both ceremonies.

The 51st Troop Command includes nearly 2,000 soldiers from the 101st Engineer Battalion, 211th Military Police Battalion, 181st Engineer Battalion, 65th Press Camp Headquarters, 379th Engineer Company, 2nd Military Police Company, 26th Personnel Services Detachment, E Company 233rd Military Intelligence Battalion, 126th Military History Detachment, and the 51st Troop Command HQ Detachment. Many of these units have served, or are serving on active duty in support of the war on terrorism.

Flynn entered the Massachusetts Army National Guard in 1968 and rose to the rank of Sergeant First Class before receiving his commission as a second lieutenant at the Massachusetts Military Academy in 1980. He holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration and a master's degree in Organizational Management.

Flynn's military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course, the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, the Advanced Military Police Officer Orientation Course and the Command and General Staff College. During his military career, Flynn served in many key positions to include Executive Officer of Headquarters and Headquarters Company 26th (Yankee) Division, Commander of the 26th Military Police Company, Logistics Officer for the 182nd Infantry Battalion, Secretary to the General Staff of the 26th (Yankee) Infantry Division Headquarters, Commander of the 211th Military Police Battalion, and Commander of 51st Troop Command.

Flynn's decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, and the Reserve Component Overseas Medal.

Colonel Flynn is a life member and past president of the Association of the First Corps of Gadets, The Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company, and is an inductee of the Massachusetts Military Academy's Hall of Fame. He is the Chief Financial Officer of the National Association of Government Employees. Flynn resides in Reading with his wife Jane, two sons, Timothy and Ryan, and daughter Casey.